ment early, so that good places can be provided for them.

Preliminary steps have been taken toward securing reduced rates on railroads.

A House of Merchandise.

The Savior condemned the practice of making the Lord's house a house of merchandise, and denounced those who introduced the custom of selling, as making it a den of thieves.

The modern practice of some popular churches is a relative of the business that was carried on in the temple of Jerusalem. Musical, literary, and church-fair buffoonery falls under the same head. Instead of dealing out to customers the unadulterated word of God and pure and undefiled religion, these churches are more largely engaged in selling to the world, and their own members, too, sensual pleasure—worldly pleasure—and at prices ridiculously high. Lotteries, raffling, tickets to vote on the most handsome lady or gentleman, fortune-telling and kindred satanic schemes are adopted to get money for the ostensible purpose of paying the preacher.

"Be not conformed to this world" an admonition by the apostle, applies here. The church of Jesus Christ that resorts to these methods of procuring money, has fallen from its high standing and is as a prostitute, providing gratification to the flesh for money.

Let the Lord's children beware of the deception of Satan and falling away into this enormous sin.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

The German Baptist church east of Ashland, known as the Dickey church, certainly has very ingenious leaders. We are happy to say that Bishop D. N. Workman and Eld. I. D. Parker allow the sisters to wear hats, if they choose, and to dress otherwise in the fashions. But some time ago they thought a plain hat was the style of hat that should be worn, and a committee was appointed to decide what a plain hat is. We are pleased over this action, and are in good hopes that we shall soon have a decision on the important question by high German Baptist authority.

On the 24th, Bro. J. Nicholson held a meeting in Holmesville, Neb., and baptized a sister.

One of our ministers writes: "I am farming now and like it tip top." The happiest days we have spent were devoted to that high and honorable occupation, and we are not surprised that our brother finds the seclusion, independence and beauty of this occupation congenial, as a relief from the burden and annoyances that a servant of the Lord must encounter. But it would be interesting to know how hard he works.

A missionary in Japan writes that he was lately invited by a Buddhist priest to preach in his temple, something unheard of before. The missionary adds that a marvelous change is taking place in the minds of the people in these far eastern lands, and Buddhism is breaking down much faster than Christianity is able to take possession of the wrecks. At some future time those countries will be the home and fortress of the Christian religion, and this will be plunged into the blackness of heathenism.

The old veteran of the cross, Eld. John Nicholson, is preaching to full houses in his new field of labor, in Nebraska. We are glad to hear that his closing labors in the vineyard of the Lord are so valuable and so fruitful for good.

Recently a number of mummy cases were found by excavations at Sidon, which will add to the knowledge already obtained from this source, which is valuable to prove the truth of the Bible. Believes do not need such evidence, but there are those who doubt. The recent discoveries suggest the thought that God has hid away in the earth sufficient evidence to establish the Bible statements about every event of much importance, so that any reasonable mind can be satisfied.

Bro. D. Harader, of Kansas, is now open for an engagement as pastor to any congregation west of the Mississippi. See his proposition in another column.

Some time ago we received $1.30 from Elkhart, Ind., in a postal note, and there was no name about the letter by which we could tell from whom it came. A notice has been in the paper before, but we still have no reply.

On July 23rd, Bro's W. C. Perry and J. H. Palmer visited the brethren a few miles east of Warsaw, Ind., where Bro. Palmer recently held a few meetings, and they organized them into a church. There were ten brethren and sisters who entered the class, and there are others who will come in, but could not be present at the time of organization. They did the very wise thing of putting their names to a form of organization, and they now have something tangible as a bond of union. They accept—

"Trine Immersion as Christian Baptism."

"A Supper and Communion as the Lord's Supper."

"Footwashing."

"The New Testament as the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice."

They have built upon the sure foundation, and now may the prayers of God's people remember this little vine that it may grow and become strong, and bear much fruit to the glory and honor of the loving Redeemer. It will be known as the Brethren church at Warsaw.

There is another letter by a writer of the Children's Department entered for the prize offered by Bro. McFaden, and so he will please not make his decision until they are all published.

Bro. P. J. Brown conducted a baptismal service, at the Bear Creek church, on the 24th.

It seems very strange that religious denominations cannot exist without internal strife. At the next conference of the Evangelical Association, a difference between the editor of their church paper and Bishop, has caused members to divide into parties, will come up for settlement. There never can be any difficulty in settling any difficulty between brethren if both parties are reasonable and take the gospel and abide by its decision. But such is very seldom the case. In most cases the devil is the one who has the greatest influence.

Next week we will re-print the Diologistic Essay, which is so popular in the Ohio S. S. conventions, in compliance with the request of the last one held.

Bro. S. H. Bashor has handed his resignation to the Brethren church at Waterloo, Iowa, and that church is now looking for a minister. We have not learned when his resignation is to take effect.

Bro. S. C. Bashor is still laboring for the Master in Oregon, preaching every alternate Lord's day. He expects soon to preach every Sunday. He says there is plenty of missionary work to do in the vicinity of Roseburg, Oregon, where he lives.

Recently an Episcopal Convention was divided and a party seceded because Negro delegates were admitted. They would not tolerate an attempt to force "social eduality upon the people."

Brethren Rittgers and Ditch come forward this week with a plan of a general division of the country as an element in an organization for church work. We have no comments to make upon it. We propose to leave every plan alone, so far as favor or objections are concerned, and encourage brethren who love the cause to meditate upon such measures and write what appears best to them.

A brother is now writing an elaborate Creed, to see how it will look, we suppose, and it will be printed in the next *Investigator*. Much has been said against a creed, and yet there is a feeling lingering with some that it would be best. How would such a document suit you brethren?

The brethren who have sent queries in to be answered will receive their replies by and by.

The EVANGELIST office has had an unusual amount of job work to do the past couple of weeks. The business in this line is building up. We are now receiving work from various parts of the country, and we can make it an object to patrons, usually, to get their work done here when they are not in too great a hurry for the job.

Bro. W. C. Perry must be waiting to write a long article. He has been in "newsy places" several times since he left.

Brethren should remember Ashland College, and send their children here. We believe that they can do as well here as at any other school and your own College should be the recipient of your favors.

The brethren at Dayton will certainly enjoy the novelty of a new place of meeting and we pray God that the little vine may never cease to enjoy and increase.

Bro. Kilhefner preached at the College last Lord's day, and A. L. Garber preached in the Fair Haven church. The brethren there are still pressing forward. Bro. Wm. Keifer does the most of the preaching there. Their sabbath school is a little army of children. If they are brought into the church, as they should be eventually, there will be many additions to the church from this source.

An Old Order minister orders the EVANGELIST, and writes in rather a discouraging way about his prospects. The outlook for the Old Order minister is certainly not very encouraging, because the rules by which he works will not be favorably received by people who have no knowledge of the Tunker fraternity. But there are other laborers who share a similar feeling. But why should men feel discouraged in the Lord's cause? Whoever undertakes to hold up the salvation of Christ, should reject the traditions of men and hold up the bleeding Jesus only. If duty is done in this, then God will take care of the remainder. If ministers are serving God, then they should never be discouraged.

The view that we can not be successful without making the Conservatives the object of our religious artillery, ought to be abandoned. Christ was not a rash man only when he denounced wicked men. He preached a saving gospel to the people, and when he used strong language, he talked face to face with the Pharisees, and condemned them in their own hearing. It would seem that the ship of hate and prejudice would be a poor thing to carry the soul to glory.

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy soul, mind and strength," is the first and great commandment in the law; but many men who are in the church never love him at all.

We are pained to learn that Eld. Geo. P. Wolfe, of Lathrop, California, passed away on the morning of July 23rd. We will publish a brief obituary next week.

Itinerancy.

In as much as the convention is now a thing of substance and not of shadow, and the time is drawing near when we as a body of Christian workers shall be assembled for the purpose of adopting some system of work, whereby we may become more united as a common brotherhood, our labor and means (money) used toward effecting one general purpose rather than a few petty schemes or private enterprises.

There is certainly no room for controversy on this subject. Every minister who is earnestly at work for the upbuilding of Christ's church and the salvation of souls must feel the necessity of some systematized plan whereby our churches can assist each other, and our ministers distributed where they can do the most good.

God, throughout the entire universe, works by system and a unity of systems. When he established his church upon earth it was by a well devised plan. When the apostles went forth under that plan to establish churches, they afterward met at Jerusalem to plan for general church work, and not as some would have us believe to make rules and mandates binding the consciences of men.

The former right God has deigated to his people in all ages, the latter never.

Now if we have this right and we propose to use it, why wait until we meet in convention? Why not give our plans to the EVANGELIST and let our brethren have time and opportunity to digest the several plans and come prepared to adopt that which will be best suited to our wants?

In consideration of these facts we have after careful reading of the word and considerable discussion upon this subject, thought it would be well to give the following plan to the consideration of the church. Not that it is the thing needed or that it is the best plan, but let it be subject to criticism and amendment, that it may set the ball rolling and something be done.

To begin suppose we divide the states in which we have brethren, into three districts. Say all the states west of the Mississippi river form district No. 1. All states east of the Ohio and south form district No. 2. All states west of the Ohio form district No. 3. Over each of these sections set a worthy man to act as elder in the distribution of ministers and the organization of churches. These elders to call a National Conference when deemed necessary by the general brotherhood. Such a conference to be composed of delegates from the different churches, together with the aforesaid elders.

Again let these general districts be sub-divided into smaller districts presided over by an elder, whose duty it shall be to assist the ministers to maintain order and such other duties as the general conference may enjoin upon him. Let these sub districts be divided into circuits of one or more classes as the cause may demand. These circuits to be supplied with ministers by the sub district conference to be made up for the various ministers in a sub-district together with the presiding elders of the several districts and the elder of the general district.

Hoping this may lead to a careful consideration of the subject, we ask the prayers of all God's people that we may work together to prepetuate his cause on earth.

Your brethren in Christ,
L. W. DITCH.
J. M. RITTGERS.

Warsaw, Ind.

Dear Editor, Brethren and Sisters:—It is with a Savior's love I write to you and hope this message may find you in the same love and that you are prospering both spiritually and temporally, for God has promised not to leave nor forsake us. Although we sometimes may think we are going through the fiery furnace, yet God is with us.

We are having God's blessings showered down on us in preparing a home for us to worship in. Bro. J. H. Palmer has helped the brethren and sisters to organize a class at this place, and there is all prospects of a large ingathering of souls. Bro. W. C. Perry assisted in the organization. I think where the spirit of Christ is there is liberty, and God sends his children out to work and may they work in harmony with his divine word, and may they be the means of bringing many souls to Christ.

Brother Palmer preached for us two weeks in July, in harvest time, and we had good attendance. We have a class of fourteen, and many more talk of coming soon to join our happy band. May the Lord help those standing out of the church and Christ to see their darkness and come to that marvelous light of the Gospel. Oh, Lord, help them to see that we are building on the solid rock, Christ Jesus, and through all our trials and troubles, God is our refuge. We expect trials. God's people are a tried people. Dear brethren and sisters of Milford, I think the Lord has a tried people there. Many are called but few are chosen. Watch, for the Lord will come as a thief in the night, and who will be able to stand?

Bro. Palmer will preach for us, the Warsaw class, August the 13th, in the evening, and Sunday at half past 10 o'clock. We expect him to hold a revival meeting at this place in the coming fall, and I hope he will gather in the grain for Christ's mansion. I think there will be a glorious reupion of the German Baptists here with us, when they see us waving the Gospel banner so plain that a wayfaring man or a fool would not err therein. May God help them to see and sing hallelujah.

Hallelujah, we are rising,
Praise ye the Lord;
And the work of God's reviving,
Praise ye the Lord.

Your Sister in the Lord.

MRS. MATILDA SHROCK.

College Notice.

Since we are again blessed with a favorable season and a bountiful harvest, and the busy time will soon be over, the time of the convention at Ashland is rapidly drawing nigh and the responses for Ashland College have been few. We would say, brethren, don't neglect this duty. Consult your conscience, and ask yourselves, have we done our duty?

Several thousand dollars more is not much among so many. Make arrangements to bring or send your contributions when the convention meets. Let us finish up this business and may the news go out that the debt is paid and the College is ours

The prospects for the College are brightening. Three years ago only some 19 students, two years ago, 41, last year 64, and for this coming year still an increase.

JOSIAH KEIM.

Every considerate word we utter concerning those about; every time we give them the benefit of a doubt in our judgment of their motive; every time we take occasion to couple with our demurrer from their position some saving clause of appreciation, we are habituating ourselves to that charity which "suffereth long and is kind," that heavenly love which alone can make us meet for heavenly company.—Frances E. Willard.

Married.

At the residence of the bride's parents in Rosedale, Pa., Mr. Albert Wissinger and sister Laura Benshoff. The marriage occurred on the afternoon of July 14th, and was performed by Eld. Solomon Benshoff.

The Evangelist to Jan. 1, 1888 for 50 cents.